

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants thank Examiner Pape for the courtesies extended to Michael McCoy and Glen Drysdale during the telephonic interview on May 9, 2008. With the entry of the present amendment, Claims 1-5, 7-9, 12, 16, 18, 19, 21-23, 25, 27-29, 31-42 are pending. Claims 21-23, 25 and 27-29 have been indicated as being allowable subject matter. Claims 1-5, 7-9, 12, 16, 18, 19 and 31-36 have been rejected. Claims Applicants have amended Claims 1, 7, 8, and 32-34 and added Claims 37-42. As discussed during the interview, Applicants requests reconsideration of the rejected claims and consideration of the new claims, in view of the claim amendments and remarks set forth herein, which Applicants consider to be a summary of the matters discussed during the interview on May 9, 2008.

Claims 1- 5, 31 and 39

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO '667. Claims 2, 3, 5, and 31 depend from Claim 1 and have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO '667. Claim 4 depends from Claim 1 and has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over WO '667 in view of Hirayama et al. Claim 39 depends from Claim 1 and is new and thus has not yet been considered.

Claim 1 has been amended to include, among other things, "the at least one slide out includes a floor configured to partially fold upwards when the trailer is in the first configuration and substantially unfold when the trailer is in the second configuration." As discussed in the interview, WO '667 does not teach or disclose such as floor as recited in Claim 1. Therefore, WO '667 does not teach each and every element of the claim as required under 102(b) and thus the rejection directed to Claim 1 has been overcome for at least this reason.

Claim 1 has also been amended to clarify that in the second configuration the floor area of the trailer "supports" a plurality of treatment bays rather than just being "large enough to support." Applicants submit that WO '667 also fails to teach this element of Claim 1 and thus

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the rejection directed to Claim 1 is also independently overcome for this reason as well as the floor element as described above.

Claims 2, 3, 5, and 31 include each element of Claim 1 and thus each of these claims include the elements described above for Claim 1 that are not disclosed or taught by WO '667. Therefore, the rejections directed to Claims 2, 3, 5, and 31 have been overcome for the same reasons as stated for Claim 1.

Claim 4 also depends from Claim 1 and thus includes the elements described above for Claim 1 that are not disclosed or taught by WO '667. Hirayama et al., which was cited against Claim 4, also fails to teach three elements recited in Claim 1 but not taught by WO '667. Therefore even the combination of WO '667 and Hirayama et al. fails to teach each and every element of Claim 4 as required under 103. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection directed to Claim 4 has been overcome for at least these reasons.

Claim 39 is a new dependent claim of Claim 1. Claim 39 further recites that "the plurality of treatment bays for treating patients includes a first row of a plurality of patient beds and a second row of a plurality of patient beds." Claim 39 is supported by the specification of the present application as filed. For example, please see Figures 5 and 23. Applicants request the consideration of Claim 39 and also submit that Claim 39 is patentable over WO '667 for at least the same reasons as discussed for Claim 1 and, as discussed in the interview, none of the cited references teach a first row and a second row of patients beds as recited.

In view of the forgoing, Applicants submit that the rejections directed to Claims 1-5 and 31 have been overcome and that new Claim 39 is supported by the present application and is patentable.

Claims 7-9, 12, 16, 18, 19 and 40

Claim 7 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO '667. Claim 8 depends from Claim 7 and has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO '667. Claims 9 and 18 depend from Claim 7 and have been rejected under 35

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U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over WO '667 in view of Marek. Claim 12 depends from Claim 9 which depends from Claim 7. Claim 12 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over WO '667 in view of Young. Claim 16 depends from Claim 9 which depends from Claim 7. Claim 16 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over WO '667. Claim 19 depends from Claim 9 which depends from Claim 7. Claim 19 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being unpatentable over WO '667. Claim 40 is a new claim that depends from Claim 7 and has not yet been considered.

Claim 7 has been amended to include, among other things, "the at least one slide out includes a floor configured to partially fold upwards in the first configuration and substantially unfold in the second configuration." As discussed in the interview, WO '667 does not teach or disclose such as floor as recited in Claim 7. Therefore, WO '667 does not teach each and every element of the claim as required under 102(b) and thus the rejection directed to Claim 7 has been independently overcome for at least this reason.

Claim 7 has also been amended to clarify that in the second configuration each treatment area defines a floor area supporting a plurality of patient treatment bays or operating stations rather than just being capable of supporting the bays. Applicants submit that WO '667 also fails to teach this element of Claim 7 and, thus, the rejection directed to Claim 7 is also overcome for this reason as well as the floor element as described above.

Claim 8 depends from Claim 7 and, thus, include each element of Claim 7 including the elements described above for Claim 7 that are not taught or disclosed by WO '667. Therefore, the rejection directed to Claim 8 has been overcome for the same reasons as stated for Claim 7.

Claims 9 and 18 also depend from Claim 7 and, thus, include the elements described above for Claim 7 that are lacking in WO '667. Marek, which was cited against Claims 9 and 18, also fails to teach these elements of Claim 7 that are lacking in WO '667. Therefore even the combination of WO '667 and Marek fails to teach each and every element of Claims 9 and 18 as required under 103. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections directed to Claims 9 and 18 have been overcome for at least these reasons.

Claim 12 also includes each element of Claim 7 including those elements described above for Claim 7 that are lacking in WO '667. Young, which was cited against Claim 12, also fails to teach these elements of Claim 7 that are lacking in WO '667. Therefore even the combination of WO '667 and Young fails to teach each and every element of Claim 12 as required under 103. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection directed to Claim 12 has been overcome for at least these reasons.

Claim 16 also includes each element of Claim 7 including those elements described above for Claim 7 that are lacking in WO '667. The Office Action took official notice that heating and cooling features in trailers are known. Even assuming that the Official Notice is proper, the combination of the WO '667 and the Official Notice still fails to teach the elements now recited in Claim 7. Therefore even the combination of WO '667 and the Official Notice fails to teach each and every element of Claim 16 as required under 103. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection directed to Claim 16 has been overcome for at least these reasons.

Claim 19 also includes each element of Claim 7 including those elements described above for Claim 7 that are lacking in WO '667. The Official Action took Official Notice that the use of air supply and a satellite communication system are known. Even assuming that the Official Notice is proper, the combination of the WO '667 and the Official Notice still fails to teach the elements now recited in Claim 7. Therefore even the combination of WO '667 and the Official Notice fails to teach each and every element of Claim 19 as required under 103. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection directed to Claim 19 has been overcome for at least these reasons.

Claim 40 is a new dependent claim of Claim 7. Claim 40 further recites that "the plurality of treatment bays or operating stations includes at least one row of a plurality of patient beds or operating tables." Claim 40 is supported by the specification of the present application as filed. For example, please see Figures 5 and 23. Applicants request the consideration of Claim 40 and also submit that Claim 40 is patentable over WO '667 for at least the same reasons as discussed for Claim 7 and, as discussed in the interview, WO '667 does not teach at least one row of a plurality of patient beds or operating tables as recited.

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In view of the forgoing, Applicants submit that the rejections directed to Claims 7-9, 12, 16, 18 and 19 have been overcome and that new Claim 40 is supported by the present application and is patentable.

Claims 21-23, 25, 27-29 and 41

The Office Action has indicated that Claims 21-23, 25 and 27-29 are allowable subject matter.

Claim 41 is a new claim that depends from Claim 21. Claim 41 further recites “the second floor area supports a first row of a plurality of patient beds and a second row of a plurality of patient beds.” Claim 41 is supported by the specification of the present application as filed. For example, please see Figures 5 and 23. Applicants request the consideration of Claim 41 and also submit that Claim 41 is patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons that Claim 21 was considered allowable. Moreover, as discussed in the interview, the cited references do not teach a first row of a plurality of patient beds and a second row of a plurality of patient beds. Therefore, Claim 41 is patentable for this additional reason.

Claims 32, 33 and 42

Claims 32 and 33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO ‘667. Claims 32 and 33 were also objected to for the following informalities: Claim 32 had “for providing” listed twice in the last line and Claim 33 used “larger” rather than “large.”

Claim 32 has been amended to clarify that the second floor area supports at least a first treatment including a first row of a plurality of beds, a second row of a plurality of beds, a plurality of oxygen and suction ports and diagnostic instruments, and at least one electricity source rather just being large enough to support such items. As discussed in the interview, WO ‘667 does not teach the rows of beds and instruments as now recited in Claim 32. Therefore, WO ‘667 does not teach each element of Claim 32 as required under 102(b) and the rejection directed to Claim 32 has been overcome.

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Claim 32 has been amended to delete the repetitive “for providing” terms. Therefore the objection directed to Claim 32 has been addressed.

Claim 33 depends from Claim 32 and, thus, includes each element of Claim 32 including the elements lacking in WO ‘667. Therefore, WO ‘667 does not teach each element of Claim 33 for at least the same reasons that WO ‘667 does not teach each element of Claim 32. Applicants submit that the rejection directed to Claim 32 has been overcome.

Claim 33 has been amended such that the term “larger” has been deleted. Therefore the objection directed to Claim 33 has been addressed.

Claim 42 is a new claim that depends from Claim 32. Claim 42 further recites “the trailer further comprises a floor section configured to partially fold upwards when the trailer is in the first configuration and to substantially unfold when the trailer is in the second configuration.” Claim 42 is supported by the specification of the present application as filed. For example, please see Figures 15a and 15b. Applicants request the consideration of Claim 42 and also submit that Claim 42 is patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons that Claim 32 was considered allowable.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the rejections directed to Claims 32 and 33 have been overcome and Claim 42 is supported by the present application and is patentable.

Claims 34 - 38

Claims 34 - 36 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO ‘667. Claims 37 and 38 are new and depend from Claim 34 and have not yet been considered.

Claim 34 has been amended to clarify that the second floor area has a first row of a plurality of patient beds and a second row of a plurality of patient beds for providing general care and monitoring the plurality of patients. As discussed in the interview, WO ‘667 does not teach the rows of beds as now recited in Claim 34. Therefore, WO ‘667 does not teach each element of Claim 32 as required under 102(b) and the rejection directed to Claim 32 has been overcome.

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Claims 35 and 36 depend from Claim 34 and thus each include each element of Claim 34 including the elements lacking in WO '667. Therefore, WO '667 does not teach each element of Claims 35 and 36 for at least the same reasons that WO '667 does not teach each element of Claim 34. Applicants submit that the rejections directed to Claim 35 and 36 have been overcome.

Claims 37 and 38 are new claims that depend from Claim 34. Claim 37 further recites "the expanding the first trailer into a second configuration includes unfolding a floor of the first trailer." Claim 38 depends from Claim 37 and further recites "comprising contracting the first trailer into the first configuration by folding the floor at least partially upwards." Claims 37 and 38 are supported by the specification of the present application as filed. For example, please see Figures 15a and 15b. Applicants request the consideration of Claims 37 and 38 and also submit that Claims 37 and 38 are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons that Claim 34 was considered allowable.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the rejections directed to Claims 34-36 have been overcome and Claims 37 and 38 are supported by the present application and are patentable.

Notice of Allowability

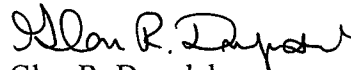
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-5, 7-9, 12, 16, 18, 19, 21-23, 25, 27-29, 31-42 of the present Application are in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued in due course. Applicants again thank Examiner Pape for his willingness to discuss the application with its representatives. Applicants encourage Examiner Pape to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

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Fees and Extensions

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,


Glen R. Drysdale
Registration No. 56,342

Customer No. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

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